

REMARKS

Claims 12-14, 16-26, 30-46, 52, 53, 55-61, and 78-81 were pending and presented for examination.¹ In an Office Action dated May 31, 2007, claims 12-14, 16-21, 30-46, 52, 53, 58-61, 78, and 80 were rejected.² Applicants thank the Examiner for examination of the claims pending in this application and address the Examiner's comments below.

Applicants note that the Examiner now considers claims 22-26, 56-57, 79, and 81 to be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, Applicants have rewritten claim 22 to incorporate the limitations of claim 21, claims 56 and 57 to incorporate the limitations of claim 55, and claims 79 and 81 to incorporate the limitations of claim 78.

Additionally, Applicants have incorporated limitations of claims 56 and 57, deemed allowable if rewritten in independent form, into independent claims 12, 14, 16, 30, and 52. All the remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from these independent claims.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that all the non-canceled claims—12, 14, 16-20, 22-26, 30-46, 52, 56-57, 79, and 81—are allowable.

Applicants respectfully invite Examiner to contact Applicants' representative at the number provided below if Examiner believes it will help expedite furtherance of this application.

Respectfully submitted,
VINCENT J. SCHIAVONE ET AL.

Dated: September 27, 2007

By: /Christopher P. King/

¹ Claims 1, 3-6, 15, 47-51, and 62-76 were pending but withdrawn as a result of the restriction requirement of February 12, 2007.

² The Office Action Summary states that claims 12-14, 16, 18, 21, 30-38, 44-46, 52, 53, 55, 58-61, 78, and 80 are rejected, but this fails to account for the additional rejections of claims 17, 19, 20, and 39-43 on page 14 of the Office Action.

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